

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 02812 282143Z

64

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1736

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CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WELLINGTON 2812

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MORG

SUBJECT: CHANGES IN TOP NEW ZEALAND MILITARY PERSONNEL

1. THE NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY OF DEFENCE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIR RICHARD WEBB, CHIEF OF DEFENSE STAFF, WILL RETIRE ON OCTOBER 15, 1976. WEBB HAS HELD HIS PRESENT POST SINCE APRIL 1970.

2. THE PRESENT CHIEF OF AIR STAFF, AIR VICE MARSHALL RICHARD B. BOLT, WILL BECOME THE NEW CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 16, 1976. BOLT WILL BE PROMOTED TO AIR MARSHALL AND GET HIS THIRD STAR AT THAT TIME.

3. BOLT WILL BE SUCCEDED ON OCTOBER 16 BY AIR COMMODORE LAWRENCE SEIGERT, HE PRESENT ASSISTANT CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF FOR POLICY. SEIGERT WILL BECOME AIR VICE MARSHALL AND GET A SECOND STAR WHEN HE TAKES UP HIS NEW POSITION.

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PAGE 02 WELLIN 02812 282143Z

4. COMMENT: BOTH AIR VICE MARSHALL BOLT AND

AIR COMMODORE SEIGERT ARE HIGHLY RESPECTED OFFICERS
AND REGARDED AS EXTREMELY WELL DISPOSED TO THE
UNITED STATES. BOLT WILL BE THE FIRST AIRFORCE
OFFICER TO HOLD THE CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF POST.
PREVIOUS INCUMBENTS HAVE INCLUDED TWO ARMY OFFICERS
AND ONE NAVAL OFFICER.
SELDEN

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